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5 November 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR : Assistant Director, Office of Special Activities

SUBJECT : Communication from Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
to DCI of 4 November Regarding [redacted]

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1. In the course of a telephone call to Mr. Knoche on another subject, Mr. Elder informed me that the Director and General Carter had received yesterday (4 November) a communication from General Taylor directing that nothing be done to the U-2's in the way of installing [redacted] until General Powers, CINCSAC, completes a study which he is making of the implications of installing this equipment on these aircraft." 25X1A

2. Apparently there was an earlier exchange between the Director and General Taylor on 2 or 3 November on this general subject, and Dr. Scoville had written an answer to Taylor's first letter on 3 November. I told Mr. Elder that we did not anticipate that it would be desirable to suspend work on configuring the slipper tanks with these equipments, and since we are not in a posture yet to deploy any of these aircraft with [redacted] the inhibition set forth by General Taylor is at the moment largely academic. The fact remains, however, that apparently a serious objection to at least the [redacted] on the U-birds has been raised by General Powers, even though it is my understanding that the equipment was [redacted]. There is no question, however, but that CINCSAC has a legitimate reason for at least stating his views on this subject as regards the [redacted] 25X1A

3. I called Dr. Scoville to advise him of this letter which Mr. Elder had told me was probably on its way to DD/R. Dr. Scoville was unaware of this communication and said that his reply to the earlier Taylor letter had

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apparently not gotten to the Chairman of the JCS before he wrote the one delivered on Sunday. We agreed that at the present it would be best not to advise Lockheed of this development lest they infer that the requirement is in the process of drying up. However, we should be alert to any costs which might accrue as a result of a premature installation of [Redacted] the U-2's if this is not to be our ultimate objective.

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JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Deputy Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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